

REDUCED IN NUMBERS, BUT STRIPPED OF POWERS, MAY REMAIN LEGISLATORS

Program of Liberal Party With Respect to Hereditary Upper Chamber of English Parliament Is Decided Upon—Its Execution Is Conditional Upon Victory In Coming General Elections.

By Charles P. Stewart, European
Manager of the United Press.

London, Dec. 28.—The English Liberal party leaders have finally pretty definitely made up their minds what to do with the House of Lords in case they win at the coming National election.

The extreme radicals have advocated the complete abolition of the chamber. Those of a more moderate type demanded an elective upper house. The element which may most accurately be described as conservative Liberal, has argued for a combination of the elective and hereditary principles.

The group in favor of the single chamber system has been completely overruled. England is too conservative for such an innovation. The other groups of Liberals have effected a compromise and the program is this: Assuming that the Liberals win at the polls in January, the Lloyd-George budget will be reintroduced. It will unquestionably pass.

That will dispose of the financial problem and leave the Liberals free to turn their attention to the reformation of the legislative system. A bill will be passed by the Commons declaring the Lords unentitled to interfere with any financial legislation passed by the lower chamber.

The next step will be the introduction of a measure providing that any bill not a financial measure, passed by the Commons, rejected by the Lords, rejected by the Commons, again rejected by the Lords and then rejected by the Commons, shall, in the intervening election, be to become law without further submission to the upper house.

Then will come the very last step. The House of Lords will be reduced by legislation to a membership of probably 150. This number will include the officers whose positions carry peerages with them. It is assumed that men who have risen to high positions in the government, may be taken to be competent legislators. The balance of the 150 will be chosen from among the present peers when the Commons consider ready to have done something for their country.

The members who are peers by virtue of their government offices have always been a conservative element in the House of Lords. Their titles do not descend to their children. This same system will be continued under the new arrangement. The peers who will be in the fact that other peers will also only be life-Lords. Their titles will descend to their sons, but not their privilege to sit in the upper branch.

As these peers die their places will be filled by new members, not necessarily elected, chosen by the House of Commons either from among its own membership or outside of it. The present plan is that these members shall serve for two sessions of parliament. The Commons will make their selections politically in proportion to the political color of their own membership.

The ultimate result will be that the House of Lords will include a small proportion of life members, the balance consisting of two-session members of the Commons' selection. The life peers will be nominally appointed by the King, but inasmuch as these appointments are always made in accordance with the wishes of the leaders of the party in power at the time, they will necessarily represent the majority of the people.

The Liberals agree that the present conservative House of Lords may attempt to block this program at almost any stage by refusal to acquiesce in the bill. Should this happen the Liberal party in the House of Commons will solve the difficulty by calling on the King to create enough Liberal peers to give them a majority in the upper as well as in the lower house. The King never refuses his peers' request for new members.

A threat of the King was made against the Lords by Premier Lord Gray when they attempted to tie up the famous English election reform bill in 1911. The threat alone proved sufficient. The Lords yielded rather than be swamped by an overwhelming number of mushroom members of their own color. The Liberals think his will repeat itself in the present case.

Titles will doubtless continue to be conferred even after the reformation of the House of Lords, but they will be mere honors and will carry no privileges or rights. The general view is that they will gradually go out of fashion.

King Edward is said to be seriously uneasy concerning the future of the crown itself. It is recognized that while the King remains satisfactory to his people it is unlikely that anything will be done toward depriving him of the figure-head post which he occupies. Should he give signs of reactionary tendencies, it would be altogether unwise. The tenure of a monarch who undertook to advise his subjects with in England in the present day would be extremely short.

SHOPPERS BREAK ALL RECORDS FOR CHRISTMAS TRADE

Never Such Business in History of City, Say Merchants

Fewer Cases of Illness Among Clerks Is the Result of Better Arrangement of Hours and General Inclination on Part of Public to Do Its Shopping Early.

Two prominent families of Danbury are at war over a Boston Bull Terrier. Not for the possession of the animal, but because the canine attacked one of the parties, LeClair and Emma C. White, owners of the terrier, have been sued by Mrs. Mary C. McGill for \$5,000 because of the injuries she has sustained, and for \$2,500 by her husband, William M. McGill, for loss of the services of Mrs. McGill, as a wife and as a housekeeper. Property of the Whites has been attached to satisfy the claims. Mrs. McGill in her complaint states that on Jan. 19, this year, while walking in Abbott street, Danbury, she was attacked by the Whites' bull terrier. The canine first dug his teeth into her right ankle, opening up four incisions. On his second attack, in her efforts to get away, she fell to the ground hurting her spine to such an extent that she was compelled to remain in bed for four months, under the care of a physician. The fall caused a great shock to her nervous system, which according to her physician will be permanent. At the present time she is compelled to ascend or descend the stairways sideways. Her husband, William McGill, states that he has paid out large sums for doctors bills, and will continue to do so, and that he has to hire a housekeeper. Suit was filed today in the Superior court.

The banner year of the fire department is 1909. The department has wheeled 109 times to 380 alarms. In 1908 there were 366 alarms and in 1907 there were 287 alarms.

The increase in the number of still alarms is the result of many people putting confidence in the Auto chemical and sending in their calls over the telephone. This year there were 230 still alarms against 184 for 1908.

So far in December there has been 40 fires in 10 days. Up to December 1 there had been 340 fires from the following causes, grass fires 29; spontaneous 9; dust from blow pipes 2; ash dumps 40; supposed incendiary 17; unknown causes 65; accidental 139; unknown causes 57; struck by lightning 2.

There were eight false alarms against eleven in 1908. The bell alarms as follows: January 17; February 7; March 28; April 19; May 15; June 14; July 15; August 20; September 8; October 15; November 15; December 28 days 23. Total still alarms 220; total bell alarms 153, false alarms 7.

BOSTON BULL TERRIER'S ATTACK ON MRS. MCGILL MAY COST OWNERS \$7,500

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SUITS FOR HEAVY DAMAGES AGAINST TROLLEY COMPANIES

Nine-Year-Old Boy Asks \$10,000 for Loss of Leg—Nathaniel Wood of This City, Seeks \$2,000 for Ruptured Kidney.

Charles L. Pardee, a nine year old youth of Danbury, has brought suit in the Superior Court against the Danbury & Bethel Street Railway Co. for \$10,000 damages. On April 4, 1909, Pardee was run over on Main street by one of the cars of the company receiving injuries which necessitated the amputation of his left leg, above the ankle. He alleges that the car was going at a high rate of speed, and was about to round a curve, and states that there was no contributory negligence on his part.

Nathaniel Wood, a resident of Jane street, this city, has brought suit for \$2,000 damages against the Connecticut Co. for injuries sustained on the evening of Nov. 8th, election night. Wood states that while on an East Main street car he signaled the conductor to stop at Jane street. The conductor obeyed his signal and the car began to slow up. As he was about to alight, the conductor gave a signal to the motorman to start ahead. With the motion of the car, he was thrown heavily to the ground, sustaining several scalp wounds, and bruising his elbows and knees. He also sustained a slight rupture of the kidneys, and because he is now 7 years of age, the injury will be permanent.

WANDER LUST GRIPS BOY OF ELEVEN YEARS

FILLING HIS POCKETS WITH CHRISTMAS GOODIES LITTLE FELLOW TAKES FREIGHT TO VERMONT, ARRIVING HALF FROZEN.

The wanderlust attacked little Peter Krohn, aged 11 years, of 60 Goodwin street, Christmas day, and after he had emptied his stockings of the good things therein, and filled his pockets with them, he left his home. It was about 10 o'clock Christmas morning. His parents supposed he had gone out to play with the other children and did not think any more about him until dinner time, when he did not appear. They waited for him and then searched the neighborhood but they could find no trace of him. All Saturday night and Sunday they worried and fretted over the disappearance of the lad. They reported the disappearance to the police. This morning a letter was received from an uncle, in Vermont, which is near Norwich, stating that Peter had arrived there, late Saturday, aboard a freight train.

Covered with dirt and almost stiff from the cold he could hardly speak. Peter will return home within a few days.

PEACE PROMISED FOR NICARAGUA

JOINT CONFERENCE OF COMMISSION REPRESENTING MADRIZ AND ESTRADA SET FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Bluefield, Nicaragua, Dec. 28.—A joint conference of the commission representing Madriz and the representatives of Provisional President Estrada is set for Saturday, New Year's day, to be discussed. Peace terms are to be discussed. Peace is now only a matter of a few days, it is believed.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The early passing of the Nicaraguan question is the confident prediction of diplomats who have followed the tortuous developments of the last few months. Although the State Department still maintains a non-committal attitude toward the Madriz government, it is generally expected that rather than have a repetition of the bloody fighting at Managua, Secretary Knox would welcome an understanding between Madriz and Estrada providing free elections are guaranteed. The government is in prospect. The unofficial visit of Admiral Kimball to this direction and it is believed here another week will see the cessation of hostilities and the establishment of a republican government.

Despite the fact that Madriz is not regarded with an especially friendly eye by the State Department he could rehabilitate himself by combining with Estrada in a general house-cleaning to rid Nicaragua of the last vestiges of Zelayanismo.

WITH THREE DAYS TO GO FIRE DEPARTMENT BEATS RECORD FOR PUT OUTS

The banner year of the fire department is 1909. The department has wheeled 109 times to 380 alarms. In 1908 there were 366 alarms and in 1907 there were 287 alarms.

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LIQUOR DEALERS IN CITY COURT

ARRESTED ON EVIDENCE FURNISHED BY EAGLE DETECTIVE AGENCY—TRIAL OF LEUNG CHICK CHUNG CONTINUED.

William J. Heaphy, proprietor of the Garde hotel, 328 South Main street, and James Mullane, a liquor dealer at 296 Main street, were arrested on warrants this morning, charging them with selling liquor on Sunday. They were arraigned in the city court and had their trials continued until Jan. 1. They will be defended by Attorney John J. Klein.

The evidence in both cases was furnished to Prosecuting Agent Henry Greenstein, Sunday night, by the Eagle National Detective Agency whose men had been in both places during the day. Warrants were sworn out last night against the accused and Patrolman Wagner arrested them this morning.

The trial of Leung Chick Chung who is charged with assaulting Charles King, a fellow Chinaman, Nov. 9, was continued until Jan. 4. Attorney William Connelley will defend him. Attorney E. K. Nicholson will appear for the accused. King is in the prosecution of Chick Chung. Chung, proprietor of a grocery store on lower State street, went surety for King.

UNCOVER MYSTERIES OF TWO CHINESE SECRET SOCIETIES

POLICE CAPTAIN GALVIN CAPTURES IMPORTANT PAPERS AFTER SHOOTING OF LOW YE FONG.

(Special from United Press.)

New York, Dec. 28.—The world mysteries of the "Four Brothers" and the "On Long Tong" societies, will, it is believed, be uncovered in the papers found today by Police Captain Galvin in a large iron box belonging to Low Jung, the withered, feeble Chinaman who was shot to death last night in a room at 305 Pell street, at the same time Low Ye Fong, himself more than 70 years old, was fatally wounded.

The papers show that Low Jung was the treasurer of the Four Brothers Society, and that he with Low Ye Fong had been doomed to death by the On Long Tong.

The Four Brothers is the oldest of the Chinese secret societies. It dates back several thousand years. The Four Brothers is also one of the strongest of the Chinese societies.

Low Jung, Low Ye Fong and several other old men, members of the Four Brothers, lived in a small room at 305 Pell street. They made their living by running errands for other Chinese.

Last night several Chinamen burst open the door and began firing. When the police arrived the place they found Low Jung in a coal bin dead. Low Ye Fong was fatally wounded. The police arrested four Celestials who are held for investigation.

ONE YEAR IN JAIL PORTION OF PIERSON

Jury Out 15 Minutes Finds Father Guilty of Heinous Assault Upon His 17-Year-Old Daughter.

Per Orlando Pierson of Hollister avenue, charged with indecent assault on his 17 year old daughter, Signa, was found guilty of the charge this afternoon by the jury, and sentenced to one year in jail by Judge Ralph Wheeler. Assistant State's Attorney Galen A. Carter in arguing rebuked the defense for their alleged efforts to keep Miss Pierson a condition of degeneracy, probably brought on by the use of liquor. It is my belief that he ought to be kept away from his daughter, yet I do not think I will sentence him to state's prison. Let the sentence be one year in jail.

When Attorney Merva told Pierson, this had been imposed upon him a smile appeared upon the prisoner's face. He shook hands with his attorney and said: "I deserve it for being drunk." His wife and three sons were in court. He bade them all good-bye with a hearty hand shake, and was led away to his cell.

Under the complaint Pierson's sentence could have been 10 years in state's prison.

INVESTIGATE ROCK ISLAND CORNER

(Special from United Press.)

New York, Dec. 28.—A special committee appointed by the governor of the stock exchange met today to begin an investigation of the flurry in Rock Island stock at the opening of the market yesterday, when the stock advanced 3 1/4 points and fell back to its strivings price within an hour. The committee is taking evidence today which will show that the stock was cornered. Corners are, by an unwritten law on the exchange, forbidden. If any stock is cornered, the men behind the deal will be severely dealt with.

BUECHLER BUYS STIRN RESIDENCE

Max Buechler, the jeweler, has purchased from Adolphus and Julia M. Stirn the four family house on the west side of Main street, near the corner of Lumber street, which was originally the Chester W. Bennett residence. For several years it has been a four family house.

Mr. Buechler believes there is a need for apartment houses in this city with steam heat and janitor service furnished by the owners. He will raise and remodel the present structure into a block with three stories on the street and six apartments above. The block will adjoin the property of Thomas P. Taylor. Mr. Buechler will expend several thousands of dollars on his project.

WOMAN WEIGHING 400 POUNDS DIES

Mother of Nine Children, All of Whom Are Alive

(Special from United Press.)

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Mary Fennell, 44, died here today of apoplexy. Mrs. Fennell weighed 400 pounds and was the mother of 9 children, all of whom are alive. The body remained warm for hours after death and for a time the family refused to accept the physician's statement that the woman was dead.

MAD DEPOSITORS BOMBARD BANKER

Put Herman Epstein, Whose Private Bank Failed, on the Run Today.

(Special from United Press.)

New York, Dec. 28.—Time has not turned the anger of the depositors who two years ago lost their money in the private bank which Herman Epstein conducted in Brooklyn, and when Herman, who has been rather elusive since the failure of his bank, reappeared on the scene today, several dozen of his former patrons, mostly women, fell upon him with great agility and asked him to account for their money.

Epstein appeared before Magistrate Riley on the complaint of one of his former depositors who alleged that he had lost \$500 in the bank's suspension. The magistrate decided this morning was one for the civil courts. The crowd in the court scented defeat from afar and when Epstein, accompanied by the police, was escorted to the walk, there was a "jury" of about 50 men and women ready to try his case.

Epstein was pelted and mauled and but for the fact that he was escorted established a new record for the 100 yard dash in their flight for a street car, he would probably have been cut up for souvenirs.

AIRSHIP FLIGHT OF 1,000 MILES

(Special from the United Press.)

Los Angeles, Dec. 28.—An airship flight of 1,000 miles between given points is a preliminary feature of the great aviation meet which is being arranged by this city. D. P. Preble of Portland, Ore., expects to make the sensational journey.

LOCAL NEWSDEALERS ARE WAITING FOR DEVELOPMENTS.

Tickets are being sent out for the fifth annual breakfast dinner and vaudeville entertainment of the Circulation Club of New York at the New York Press Club on Wednesday evening, Feb. 2. The price of tickets is \$5.00, and a number of local newsdealers expect to be included in the list of dealers in the eastern and middle states to participate.

PADLOCKED DINNER TAKEN BY THIEF

The first of the reports about the theft of Christmas dinners is now occupying the attention of Detective Edward Cronan. Before retiring Friday night, Ed. B. Morrell had his dinner placed in his box on the back stoop and saw to it that the box was padlocked. When he awoke the lock was found broken and the dinner gone from the turkey to the mince pie.

TOBACCO TRUST GETS CONTROL OF DRUG TRUST

(Special from United Press.)

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—A \$2,500,000 business deal by which the tobacco trust is to assume control of the Owl Drug company stores along the Pacific coast, under the corporate name of the United Chemist Stores Company, is reported today. According to the report the new company will immediately extend its retail stores, placing at least one establishment in every large city on the west coast.

The Owl Drug Company is the largest retail drug concern on the coast, being locally known as the "Drug Trust."

The consummation of the entire deal, it is said, awaits the decision of the Federal Court regarding the Sherman anti-trust law.

BRAKEMAN BREAKS REMNANT OF MAN'S PREHISTORIC TAIL

Now He Believes He Is Descended from the Simian Family.

John Leavenworth, aged 33, of 70 Franklin street, brakeman, is now convinced that the Darwinian theory has substance and bottom. One of the proofs that man is descended from an animal like a monkey consists in the presence of three extra cartilages at the base of the spine, which are useless, and are supposed to be the remains of a once flourishing tail, which has withered away. Leavenworth fell from a freight train in the East End yards, this morning, and in the rudimentary process where it joins onto the spine, was taken to Bridgeport Hospital upon the order of Dr. J. M. Kiernan, of the Emergency hospital corps.

DRUMM RID OF 2ND WIFE WOULD DIVORCE FIRST

Mortimer Drumm, a resident of Broad street, who only a week ago had his marriage of June 6, 1908, to Ida Jordan of this city, annulled because he had found out that he was a married man, though he thought himself divorced at the time of the nuptials, is now seeking a separation from his first wife, from whom he thought he had been divorced. Drumm on Oct. 10, 1908, married Bertha McMasters in Cobleskill, Schenectady county, New York. They were married until October, 1909. Then both went to Attorney John J. Pinder of their home town and mutually agreed to separate. Papers of separation were drawn up, which both parties thought were papers of divorce. The matter never went to the courts. Drumm came to this city where he wooed and wed Ida Jordan on June 6, 1908. A month later to the day he was conscious of the fact that he was not divorced from his first wife. From the date this information was conveyed to him he has never lived with the second Mrs. Drumm. Drumm wants the decree on the ground of desertion.

WORKMAN CRUSHED TO DEATH BY HUGE BOILER

(Special from United Press.)

New Haven, Dec. 28.—John Dugan, thirty-seven years old, an employee of the Bigelow Boiler Company, was crushed at noon today when a huge boiler plate fell on him, pinning him to the ground, breaking his back and causing internal injuries. He was rushed to St. Raphael's Hospital where he died in a few minutes after his arrival.

Dugan was married and lived at 35 Filmore street.

SHAPIROS RETURN 60 RESCUED FROM FERRY CRUSHED IN ICE GORGE

(Special from United Press.)

Bellaire, O., Dec. 28.—Sixty passengers were rescued from the foundering ferryboat Charon on the Ohio river today after a perilous night in which the ferry was crushed and pitched in an ice gorge.

The ferry, plying from Bellaire to Benwood, was caught in the ice gorge about here. Rivermen living in houseboats went to the rescue in the morning.

JOINT COMMITTEE WILL INVESTIGATE BALLINGER- PINCHOT CONTROVERSY.

(Special from United Press.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—The investigation of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy will be conducted by a joint committee of the Senate and House. This decision was made by the administration today after a series of conferences between the President and his leaders. Senator Nelson of Minnesota will probably be the committee in charge of the investigation.

Representative Daboll of Pennsylvania was consulted by the President regarding the House end of the matter. He, in common with the President, Secretary Ballinger, and practically all of the Republican leadership, favored a joint investigation which they believe will prevent any possibility of "cover-up" that would be sure to follow a separate investigation of Congress separately. A plan for a joint investigation was today endorsed by Postmaster General Hitchcock, political monitor of the administration.

UNCLASSIFIED

- FOR SALE.—Business wagon for sale cheap. Enquire 539 Jane St. a p
- WANTED.—Young girl to take care of baby. 974 Iranistan Ave. T 27 b o
- WANTED.—Competent girl for general housework. Apply 235 Beechwood Ave. T 27 b o
- WANTED.—A first class machinist, one who understands corset machines. Birdseye Somers Co. T 16 s 2 4 6
- OLD HOMESTEAD CAFE, hot and cold lunch all day. Look in corner E. Main and Walter Sts. M. J. O'Connor, Prop. A 19 t f o 3
- FARTY with \$1,000.00 can obtain interest in New Haven company doing splendid mail order business. Big dividend payer. P.O. Box 1382, New Haven, Conn. T 21 d p o
- FOR SALE.—Fisher, Behning, Gabler and Mathusbeck Upright Pianos for sale cheap. Dial & Lee Music Co., 84 Cannon St. T 16 t f o
- FOR SALE.—Here is a chance to make money. 4 family house, 20 rooms, rent \$300 per year. Leave your address at Farmer Publishing Co. H 27 t f o
- FOR SALE.—Block of 40 rooms, rent for \$1,335 per year. Good paying property and a widow can't take care of same. Address Farmer office. T 2 t f o
- TO RENT.—Apartments at 302 Golden Hill St. Seven rooms and bath. Enquire of owner, 441 Washington Ave. T 3 t f o
- TYPEWRITING — Mimeographing. Notary Public. Sears, 108 Meigs Bldg. T 17 t f o